to be a handy Instrument for 'black money' transactions;

(b) whether this is another version of 'bearer bonds' but on much more attractive terms; and

(c) how does it differ from the 'bearer-bonds scheme' of 1980 or 1981?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The bearer bonds scheme was intended to mop up black money and hence provided for certain immunities and tax concessions to the holders. Indira Vikas Patra does not provide for any immunity or tax concession and is intended to provide an attractive instrument for investment especially by non income tax payers and people in rural areas. At the time of encashment of the Patra, the holder has to sign and give his name and address.

Import of clove and cassia

2825. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the import of clove and cassia has been now put to canalised list from O.G.L.; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) if so, when;

(c) what were the rates in local market prior to its putting in OGL and what were the rates after it was put under OGL;

(d) whether Government propose to assure the same price level of clove and cassia which was there prior to its recent canalisation;

(e) whether it is a fact that there are some anomalies in the policy of allocation of clove and cassia to the traders and whether Government have received any complaints from Bombay Clove Merchants' Association Ltd. in this regard; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI) : (a) and (b) Import of clove/cassia was canalised through the STC w.e.f. 26-9-1986, with a view to re-regulate their imports.

(c) and (d) The market price of cloves as reported in the Economic Times ranged from Rs. 138/- to Rs. 145/- per Kg. before canalisation. The current prices ranged in November from Rs. 140/- to Rs. 175/- per Kg. The prices of cinnamon/cassia ranged from Rs. 63/- to Rs. 70/- per Kg. before canalisation. The current prices in November ranged from Rs. 61/- to Rs. 115/- per Kg. The prices of cloves/cassia will *inter alia* depend upon indigenous production and prices prevailing in the international market.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Association has protested against canalisation of import of these items and expressed fear of rise in local prices. The Government do not subscribe to the fears expressed by the Association.

Export of jute goods

2826. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether export of jute goods has shown a rising trend recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The information available from April upto June, 1986 indicates an increase in exports quantity-wise as compared to previous year. The comparative figures are as under :—

(Thousand tonnes)

April	—	1985-86	64.8
June	—	1986-87	68.6

Electronic link for Stock Exchanges

2827. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have directed the Stock Exchanges in the country to have electronic link to facilitate dissemi-